

Appl. No. 10/643,545
Amdt. Dated Feb. 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 22, 2004

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. 83394.0012
Customer No. 26021

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet (sheet 18) of drawings includes Fig. 18.

Attachment: New Drawing Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification is amended. New drawing figure 18 is added. No new matters is introduced by the specification and drawing amendments. Claim 11 is amended. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

A Declaration under 37. CFR 1.132 is filed concurrently.

The abstract was objected to because of the form and legal phraseology such as "means". The applicants submit an amended abstract that avoids legal phraseology.

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter under 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP 608.01(o). (See paragraph 3 of the Office Action.) Specifically, the Office Action stated that the specification does not disclose "a selection means which provides a calculation value ..." as recited in claim 14. In addition, the drawings were objected to because they fail to show features such as a first input means, etc. (See paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Office Action.) In response, the applicant amends the specification by inserting a new paragraph on page 16, and amends the drawings by adding new Figure 18. The new paragraph inserted on page 16 does not introduce any new matter because it is supported by at least claims 1 and 14 which are a part of the originally filed application. Similarly, new drawing figure 18 does not introduce any new matters between it is also supported by at least claims 1 and 14 that are a part of the originally filed application.

Claim 11 was objected to because of the missing period. This informality has been corrected.

Claims 1-11, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (USP 6,745,134). This reference has common

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assignee with the instant application and two of the three named inventors of the '134 reference, Messrs. Kinya Kobayashi and Kiyomi Yoshinari, are also named inventors of the present application. The applicants submit the enclosed Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 by Messrs. Kobayashi and Yoshinari to show that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventors of this application and is thus not invention "by another".

Specifically, the contributions of Mr. Lee Chahn, the third named inventor of the '134 patent, to the '134 patent was limited to the subject matter illustrated in Figs. 7, 8 and 9 and described in Col. 8, lines 8-10 and Col. 8, line 28 to Col. 9, line 23 of the '134 patent. As summarized in Col. 8, lines 8-10, this subject matter relates to examples of displaying the bonding strength of the parent ion "by the distribution indications shown in FIG. 7, by the strength indications by color shown in FIG. 8, or by the symbol indications shown in FIG. 9". The remaining subject matter of the '134 patent, including the portions relied on by the Examiner in the Office Action, were the contribution of Messrs. Kobayashi and Yoshinari. Thus, the applicants believe that this declaration overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim 14 is allowed.

Claims 12, 17 and 19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, the applicants believe that these claims are allowable in their present form because the base claims (claims 1, 16 and 18, respectively) are allowable.

The art made of record but not relied upon by the Examiner has been considered. However, it is submitted that this art neither describes nor suggests the presently claimed invention.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

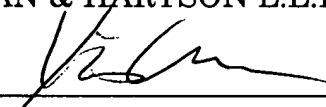
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 17, 2005

By: _____


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(new drawing →)

FIG. 18

